

challenging. After my attempt to find a private publisher for a study similar to *Die Welt in Zahlen* had failed, Professor Joseph H. Willits, then Director of the Social Science Department of the Rockefeller Foundation, suggested that the project might be carried out under the auspices of his Foundation. Later the project was expanded, financed jointly by the Foundation and the Twentieth Century Fund, and administered by Johns Hopkins University.

This project was the first major literary venture Emma and I had undertaken on the basis of complete equality. In Germany, she had helped me in my statistical and economic work but did not try her hand at doing part of it on her own. Now she took all responsibility for entire sections of the study, mainly those requiring extensive work in libraries (agriculture, mining, individual industries, transportation), while I worked on sociological and political sections (population, migration, government) and general world surveys. This division of labor was in line with our personal inclinations. We had no assistants and did all technical work ourselves. Emma prepared computations and supervised typing, I took care of charts and maps. The project took almost seven years of extremely strenuous work, and our report was published by the Twentieth Century Fund in two huge volumes under the titles *World Population and Production* (1,300 pages) and *World Commerce and Governments* (about 1,000 pages).

Critics in the United States and abroad have been generous in appraising these books, although some reviewers have pointed out their weaknesses: because of the broad scope of the subject matter, we could not handle all subjects in depth and keep to a strict plan in allocating space to each one. Indeed, our allocation of space was determined partly by the abundance or scarcity of available information and sometimes by our particular interest in certain problems. The reviews most gratifying to us have been those that stressed the general ideas of our books and our interpretation of the trends in individual countries, including the United States, as manifestations of general changes characteristic of our times.

In the following years we came across our books in all the countries of Latin America and many countries of Asia. Each time we had a feeling of great satisfaction in seeing them in the hands of local economists and students or on the shelves of university libraries. This is the moral dividend that authors get from their writings: particles of their thoughts are floating in the air, and occasionally the orbits may cross the path of those who originated them. I am not ashamed to confess that I greatly enjoy the privilege of meeting again with my ideas and opinions reproduced in a language I cannot understand, in strange characters I cannot read.

Another moral dividend awarded to the author is in the work itself.